Bactria Cultural Centre opens applications for summer school "Digital Arts Academy" for participants from Tajikistan and Afghanistan.

**Deadline:** March 15, 2020

**Where:** Home based; Dushanbe

**When:**
- May - preparatory online course
- June - intensive one month course in Dushanbe

**Subsidy for participants from Afghanistan:** Payment of all costs - transportation, visa and registration, accommodation, and a small per diem.

**About Bactria Cultural Centre**
The French humanitarian created Bactria Cultural Centre in December 2001 and development NGO ACTED to address the lack of access to culture, information and vocational training in Tajikistan. Since then it has become a focal point in the cultural life of Dushanbe. Cooperating with several embassies and donor organisations in Tajikistan, Bactria supports a wide variety of cultural activities and educational activities.

**About ‘Digital Arts Academy’**
‘Digital Arts Academy’ is a new two-year project, funded by UNESCO, which aims to empower young female cultural entrepreneurs in Afghanistan and Tajikistan to realise their full potential in the digital creative industries. The project will strengthen the skills of women, provide access to professional networks, equipment, opportunities, and mentorship, and promote start-ups and artistic output financially and through a participant designed media campaign that will foster recognition of the aspirations, capacities and contributions of young women.

Activities centre on the establishment of a Digital Arts Academy in 2020 that will offer courses on coding, digital creation (motion, graphic, web design, video editing, etc.), and entrepreneurship. Academy graduates will be offered paid work placements in partner institutions to learn their respective trades while innovation will be bolstered through a grant mechanism that will fund start-ups / artistic initiatives.

**Why should you take part in the Digital Arts Academy?**

- Receive expert courses on the basics of social entrepreneurship, programming, graphic and web design, photo/video editing;
- Get the opportunity to join a network of graduates and develop your professional network in Central Asia;
- Get access to paid internships and initial funding to develop your own initiatives;
- A unique chance to use your creativity and passion to shape the digital future.

How to become a part of the Digital Arts Academy?

- Be a woman between the ages of 18 and 40;
- Be a citizen of Tajikistan or Afghanistan;
- Have a strong motivation to take part in the project and its activities;
- Able to connect to the Internet for a 1-month online course;
- Able to travel to Dushanbe to attend a 1-month long training course;
- Can make a commitment to taking part in the project for the necessary period to complete the training and participate in the work placement and the small grants programme;
- Have a relevant educational background and/or relevant experience in digital arts;

Basic skills in one of the following areas are a necessity: skills in photography, videography (storyboard, shooting, post-production), graphic design (vector graphics, 3D graphics and animation), computer animation (motion graphics), game design and development, web design (UX and UI), coding, programming, etc., using the following programs, Corel Draw, Adobe Creative Cloud, 3D Max, etc.).

Preliminary plan:

1. Application deadline: March 15, 2020
2. Processing applications and interviews: April 2020
3. Online distance learning course: May 2020
4. Visa fees: May
5. Monthly course in Dushanbe: June 2020
6. Paid internship: July-October 2020
7. Funding for initiatives: July-October 2020

How to apply:

All qualified candidates can send a request to: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepsM6JvqXjay8CM7NE2fZu8xSABRtwU7_GRai2m2bNjoAbg/viewform

The deadline for submitting applications is 12:00, March 15, 2020.